Curating academic publications - a perspective for research libraries

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Curating academic publications
a perspective for research libraries

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Why this talk?

- Background
  - Involvement in scientific information management in several major European research institution
    - CNRS, MPS, INRIA
  - Specific interest in content management and standards
    - TEI, ISO TC 37/SC 4
- General objective (bias)
  - Accompanying/anticipating the evolution of the publishing landscape – from the point of view of research institutions
- Issue
  - Is there a place for research libraries?…

Word of caution

- Research libraries come in many different forms
  - Heterogeneity across disciplines
  - The more libraries you see the less you may want to generalize
- Some research libraries have taken the lead in developing new technologies at the service of science
- Librarians come with a wide variety of profiles: information science, scientific background, computing

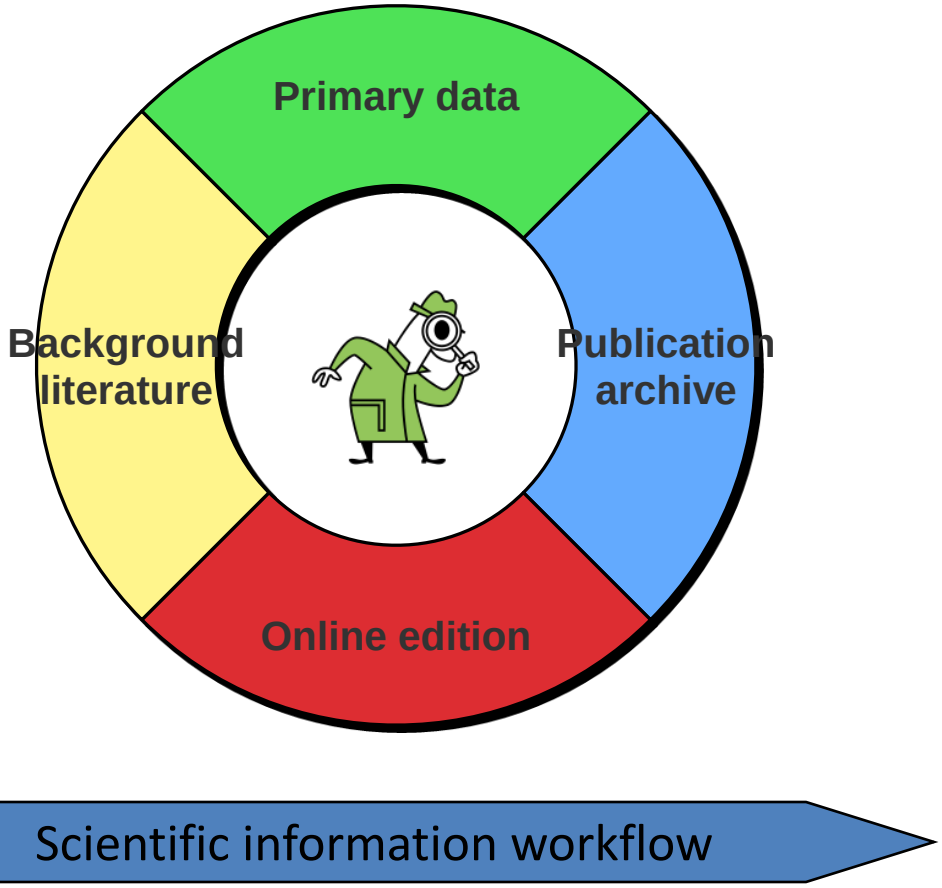
The good old library - missions

- Acquiring
  - Intermediary between academics and publishers
  - *But, not in the loop on the publishing side*
- Cataloguing
  - Managing, complementing meta-data
  - *But, not necessarily considered as an interlocutor by academics to retrieve information*
- Making available
  - Filing books and journals on shelves
  - *But, empty libraries (with a contrast between natural vs. human sciences)*

The library in the digital world

- Most assets have become digital
  - E.g.: subscriptions to scholarly publications, eBooks catalogues, databases etc.
- Business as usual
  - Acquiring
    - But still not in the loop of the publishing workflow
  - Cataloguing
    - But researchers use Google
  - Making available…
    - Online access is transparent to the reader
- Issues
  - Very little insight in the actual content
  - The academics have also become digital

The Scientist’s (digital) ecology



Working with research data

- Wide variety and complexity
  - High Energy Physics
    - Particle accelerators / colliders
  - Meteorology
    - Computer simulations
  - Astrophysics
    - Observations, stellar object descriptions
  - Biology
    - Spectrographic representations
  - Linguistics
    - Corpora, grammars, lexical databases
- What should be the role of research libraries?
  - Maintaining the link with publications?
  - Are research data too complex for them?

Consequence for the library

- Academics cannot master all this
  - Even if they think they can
- New needs are piling up
  - Open access
    - Putting together and managing publication repositories
  - Digitizing existing assets
    - Participating in the creation of content
  - Managing born digital documents
    - Digital publishing platforms, digital laboratory reports
  - Managing research data and primary sources?
- Not just metadata, management of content

Publication repositories
the editorial touch

The need for a more coherent infrastructure

- An old story – the MaxPlanck Society-Springer agreement (2008-2009)
  - Full open access scheme at publication time
  - Upload of Publisher's version onto the MPS repository
- Où les difficultés commencent…
  - Mapping the Springer and MPS technical platforms
    - Two evolving and at times incompatible digital environments

Why is it so difficult?

- Great heterogeneity of format within publishers
  - Meta data (and full-text)
  - Proprietary, ScholarOne, NLM 2.0, NLM 3.0, …
- Various issues
  - Affiliations
  - Publication date information
  - ISO 639 codes (countries)
  - Bibliographical references
  - Proprietary metadata fields

The information chaos

- Article title
  - article-title/title | ArticleTitle | article-title | ce:title | art_title | article_title | nihms-submit/title | ArticleTitle/Title | ChapterTitle
- Journal title
  - j-title | JournalTitle | full_journal_title | jrn_title | journal-title
- ISSN (print)
  - JournalPrintISSN | issn[@issn_type='print'] | issn[@pub-type='ppub'] | PrintISSN | issn-paper
- First page of a paper
  - spn | FirstPage | ArticleFirstPage | fpage | first-page

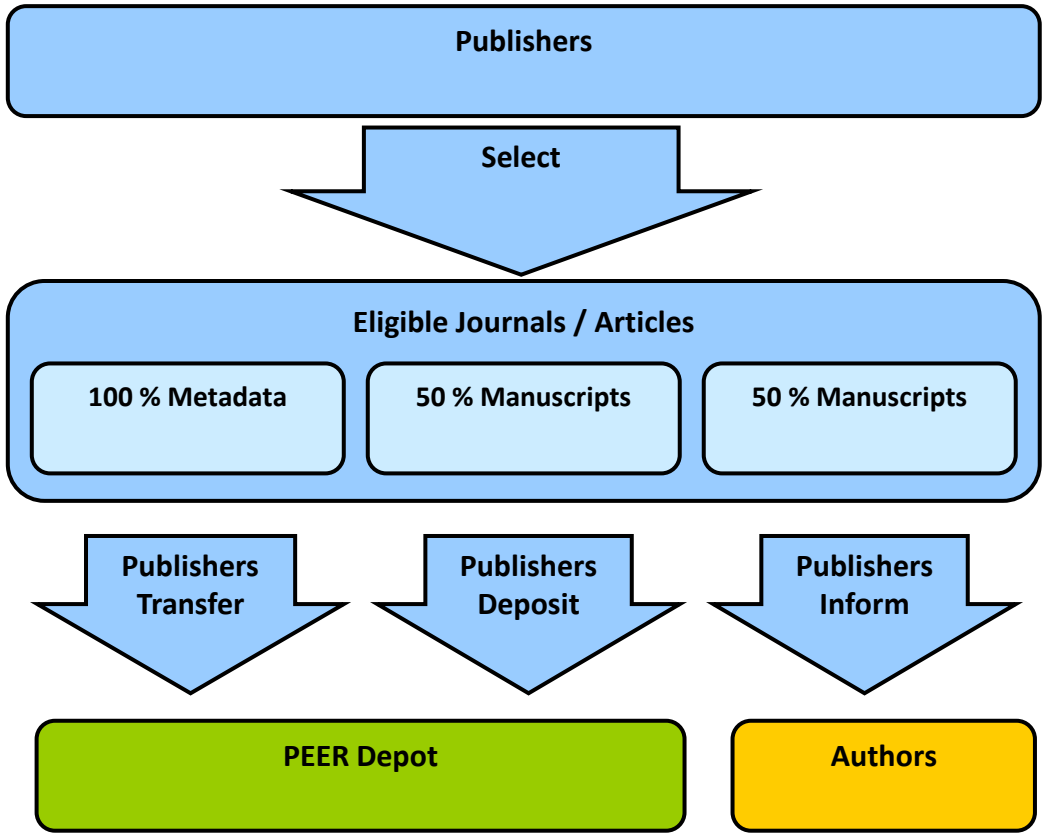
Sorting this out

- Defining a coherent infrastructure to facilitate
  - The long-term management of scholarly content in research institutions
  - Smooth interaction between publishers and research institutions
    - Better understanding of what each of us can provide
- On-going experimental setting: the EU PEER project

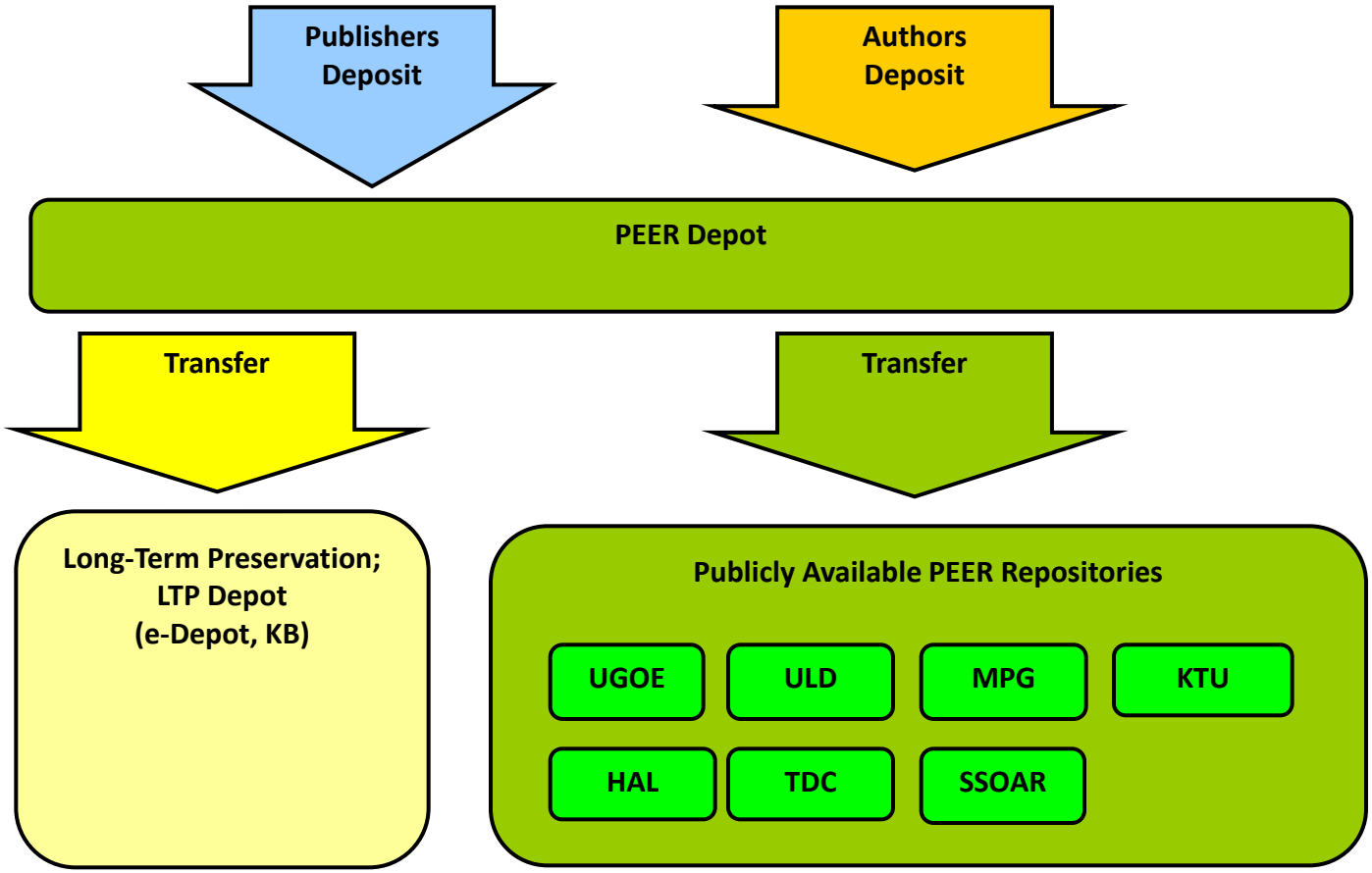
The PEER project

- Initiated by the EU commission (DG INFSO)
- Objective: study the impact of systematically archiving stage-two outputs in "institutional repositories" (cf. Romary &Armbruster 2010)
  - on journals and business models
  - on wider ecology of scientific research
- Consortium
  - STM, European Science Foundation (ESF), Goettingen State and University Library (UGOE), Max Planck Gesellschaft (MPG), INRIA

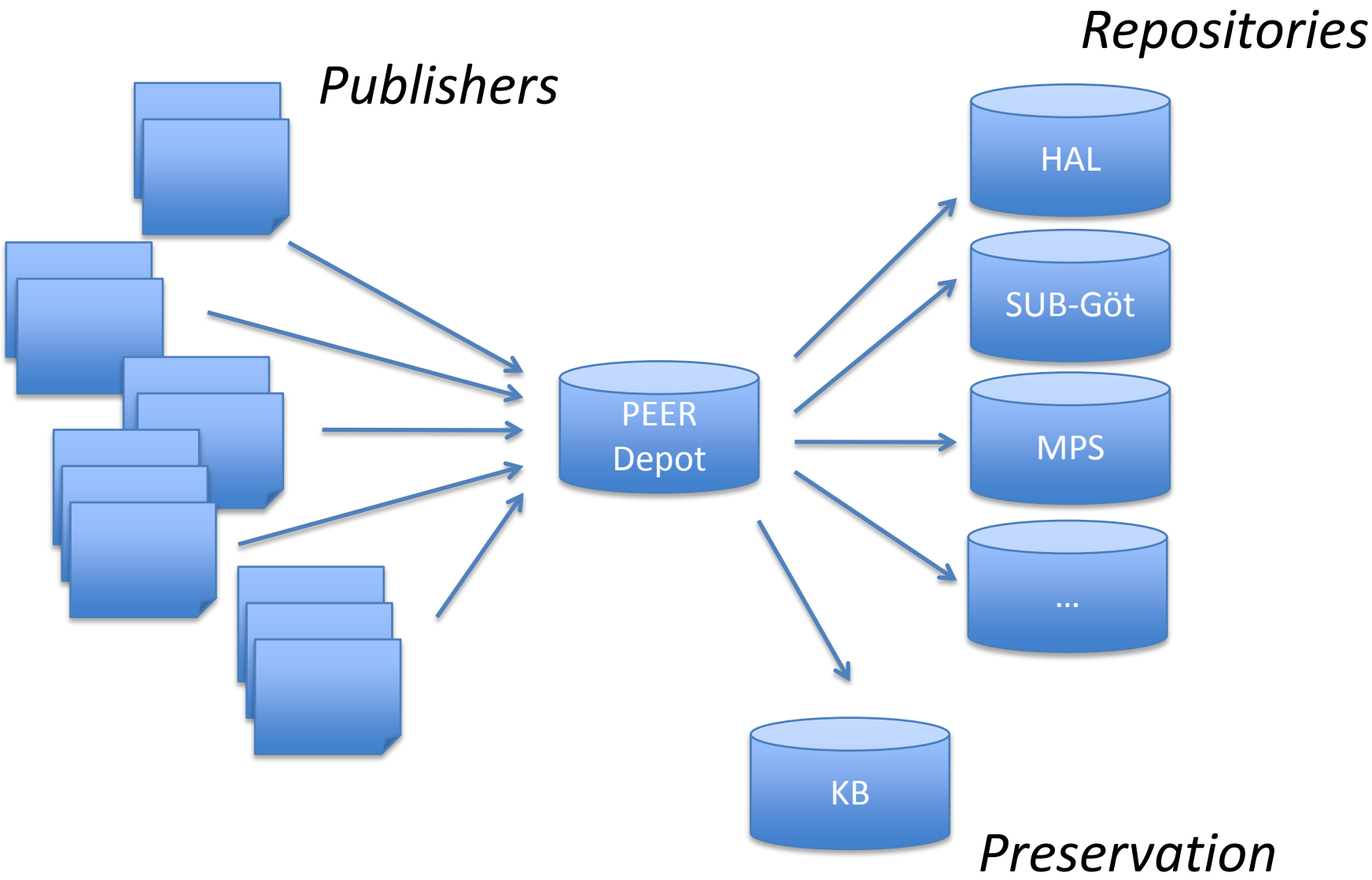
Content submission - publishers



Content submission – to repositories & LTP archive



The PEER deposit workflow



Consequence of the PEER experiments

- Strong involvement of librarians at INRIA
  - Defining workflows
  - Defining an optimal target format
  - Quality control (affiliations)
  - Perspective for full-text archiving
- Importance of a well-defined standardization strategy
  - TEI – Text Encoding Initiative
    - Well documented and stable initiative
    - Clear maintenance strategy
  - Systemic view of digital documents
    - Articles, books, primary sources
  - Large community of practice
    - Scholarly publishing
- A continuity with existing research library skills

Conclusion

- New profiles
  - Digital curators
    - Combining old skills with new technologies
      - Describing digital sources: meta-data
      - Understanding and representing the structure of digital sources
      - Enriching (annotations, links), versioning, disseminating
  - Proximity to researchers
    - Higher profiles – understanding scholarly work
  - Flexibility
    - Need to adapt to scenarios which are not yet anticipated
- New roles – articulating research and publishing
  - Cf. PEER
    - Management of (“gold”) OA deals
    - Long term preservation
    - Support for scientific data management
    - Contribution to the evolution of scholarly communication

Further readings

- BIJSTERBOSCH, M., BRÉTEL, F., BULATOVIC, N., PETERS, D., VANDER-FEESTEN, M., WALLACE, J., PEER. D3.1. Guidelines for Publishers and Repository Managers on Deposit, Assisted Deposit and Self-Archiving, 2009.

  http://www.peerproject.eu/fileadmin/media/reports/D3_1_Guidelines_v8.3_20090528.Final.pdf
- HOLMES, M., ROMARY, L., "Encoding models for scholarly literature", in KAPIDAKIS, S. (dir.), *Publishing and Digital Libraries: Legal and Organizational Issues*, 2009.

  http://hal.archives- ouvertes.fr/hal-00390966/fr
- ROMARY, L., ARMBRUSTER, C., "Beyond institutional repositories", *International Journal of Digital Library Systems*, 2010.

  http://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-00399881/fr